STAR comics

MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE™

75¢ U.K. 40p CAN. 95¢
3
SEP
MARVEL®

HA HA HA HA! HA HA HA!

OH, NO! PRINCE ADAM IS BEING *SLIMED* IN HORDAK'S **SLIME PIT!**

BUT WHAT CAN I *DO*?

FIND OUT INSIDE!

GIVE THE GIFT OF LITERACY.

THE GARDEN OF EVIL

SOMEWHERE, SOMETIME, THERE IS A FANTASTIC PLANET KNOWN AS ETERNIA! IT IS BOTH A BEAUTIFUL AND FRIGHTENING WORLD... FILLED WITH HEROIC MEN, STRONG IN THEIR FRIENDSHIP --AND EVIL MEN, EQUALLY STRONG IN THEIR VILLAINY.

THIS IS PRINCE ADAM HEIR TO THE THRONE OF ALL ETERNIA. HE IS A GOOD-NATURED SOUL, THOUGH AT TIMES MORE CARE-FREE THAN HE SHOULD BE!

AND THIS IS ORKO, ETERNIA'S MAGICIAN AS WELL AS, UNINTENTIONALLY, COURT JESTER AT TIMES!

COME BACK HERE, ORKO... YOU LITTLE WEASEL! I'LL TEACH YOU A LESSON ONCE AND FOR ALL!

OH, NO, YOU DON'T, ADAM! THIS TIME I'LL SHOW YOU WHO ETERNIA'S GREATEST WARRIOR IS!!

THESE TWO ARE ETERNIA'S CLOSEST FRIENDS SO YOU CAN IMAGINE HOW EVIL THEIR ENEMIES ARE!!

http://www.comicdays.org

MIKE CARLIN WRITER · RON WILSON PENCILS · DENNIS JANKE INKS · JOHN MORELLI LETTERS · BOB SHAREN COLORS · RALPH MACCHIO EDITOR · TOM DEFALCO EXEC EDITOR · JIM SHOOTER EDITOR IN CHIEF

MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE ™ Vol. 1, No. 3, September, 1986. Published by MARVEL COMICS GROUP, James E. Galton, President, Stan Lee, Publisher, Michael Hobson, Group Vice-President, Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Published bi-monthly. HE-MAN, ORKO, CRINGER, HORDAK, BATTLECAT, HORDE TROOPER, SLIME PIT, ETHERIA, ETERNIA, PRINCE ADAM, FRIGHT ZONE, CASTLE GRAYSKULL, MANTISAUR, HURRICANE, HORDAK and associated characters are trademarks owned by and used under license from Mattel, Inc. Copyright © Mattel, Inc. 1986. All Rights Reserved. All other material copyright © 1986 by Marvel Comics Group, a division of Cadence Industries Corporation. All rights reserved. Price 75¢ per copy in the U.S. and 95¢ in Canada. Subscription $9.00 for 12 issues. Canada and Foreign $11.00. Printed in the U.S.A. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. POSTMASTER: SEND ALL ADDRESS CHANGES TO MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016.

WHEN WE STARTED THIS GAME, I THOUGHT YOU WEREN'T GOING TO USE YOUR SWORD OF POWER!

S-Z'NG

I NEVER SAID I WOULDN'T, CRK, OL' BUDDY... IT WAS YOUR MISTAKE TO ASSUME AS MUCH!

C'MON, YOU GUYS! I'LN'T YOU THINK THIS GAME IS GETTING A BIT ROUGH??

UH-UH, CRINGER, HE'S ALWAYS USING THAT THING TO MAKE HIMSELF LOOK GOOD!

HA!HA! DO I DETECT A NOTE OF JEALOUSY IN YOUR VOICE, LITTLE PAL??

LOOK, YOU'RE USING YOUR MAGICAL ABILITIES, SO I CAN USE MY SWORD -- IT'S ALL I'VE GOT!

FINE! THEN FAIR'S FAIR! PITTED AGAINST MY MAGIC, YOU HAVEN'T GOT A CHANCE!

HEAR ME, POWERS FROM A BYGONE AGE, LOCK THIS CLOWN IN AN ENERGY CAGE!!

SWOOP

WHAT?! I'M SURROUNDED BY SOME SORT OF ELECTRICAL ENERGY FIELD!!

YES, AND I'D LIKE TO SEE YOU ESCAPE THIS LITTLE BEAUTY!

KAZAP

FELLAS! THIS IS REALLY GETTING OUT OF HAND!

ORKO'S GOING TO HATE ME EVEN MORE IN ABOUT TWO SECONDS.

WAIT'LL HE SEES *THIS* MANEUVER!

HEADS UP, ORKO, I'M BUSTING LOOSE!!

CHING

PING

BING

GA-ZING

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! HE'S *FREE!*

THAT WAS ONE OF MY STRONGEST SPELLS!

UH-OH! THOSE *ENERGY* BANDS..

--ARE HEADING STRAIGHT FOR ME!

HELLLPPP!!

BOOM

THIS IS JUST *GREAT!*

THUK!

GHUK!

SHUK!

NOW I'M TRAPPED AGAINST THIS TREE.. *BY MY OWN MAGIC!!*

GET ME OUT OF HERE ... I'M STUCK! *PLEASE, ADAM!*

SAY "UNCLE" YET, PAL?

HOW *HUMILI-ATING!!*

HA, HA, HA!

I'M GLAD *THAT'S* OVER.

OVER? NOT QUITE YET, FOR IN ANOTHER DIMENSION KNOWN AS ETHERIA, A STORM IS BREWING OVER HORDAK'S FRIGHT ZONE...

I HAVE WAITED LONG ENOUGH!

I HAVE REGAINED MY STRENGTH AND FORMULATED A PLAN!!

I WAS FORCED TO RETREAT WHEN I LAST TANGLED WITH ETERNIA'S BLOND CHAMPION -- HE-MAN -- AND FOR THAT HE SHALL PAY DEARLY! *

AND I, HORDAK, SHALL COLLECT THAT DEBT!!

* IN MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE # 7!

HE IS A VERY POWERFUL ENEMY... AND IF I AM TO TAKE ETERNIA AS MY OWN, I MUST HAVE HIM -- AND HIS POWERS!

THAT IS WHY I HAVE SUMMONED YOU, MY HORDE TROOPERS!!

RUMBLE

YOU WILL STORM ETERNIA AND SET INTO MOTION MY PLAN FOR REVENGE!!

YOU MUST BRING ME THE BODY OF ETERNIA'S MOST POWERFUL BEING!

FAIL, AND YOU SHALL BE SENT BACK TO WHERE YOU CAME!

NOW, GO!!

AND DO NOT RETURN TO MY FRIGHT ZONE WITHOUT THE BLOND SWORDSMAN I CALL MY ENEMY!

AND BACK ON ETERNIA...

I STILL SAY IT'S NOT FAIR! THE ELDERS OF ALL ETERNIA GAVE YOU THAT SWORD! OF *COURSE* IT'S STRONGER THAN MY MAGIC!

SHUSH. ORKO. LOOK THE SKIES ARE DARKENING. THERE MUST BE A STORM HEADING THIS WAY.

RUMBLE

MAYBE WE SHOULD START BACK TOWARD THE PALACE.

GOOD IDEA. I'M AFRAID OF THUNDER AND LIGHTNING!

HA! THE GREAT PRINCE ADAM... SCARED OF THE RAIN! IS THAT BECAUSE YOUR SWORD DOESN'T COME WITH AN UMBRELLA ATTACHMENT?!

WHAT COULD POSSIBLY HAPPEN TO US IN A WIMPY OLD SHOWER ANY--

EEEYAAH! WHO ARE *THEY*?!

I DON'T KNOW, ORKO! THEY JUST APPEARED OUT OF NOWHERE!

I *KNEW* I SHOULD HAVE CALLED IN SICK TODAY!!

WE HAVE COME FOR THE MOST POWERFUL BEING ON YOUR WORLD!

WELL THAT COUNTS ME OUT...

QUIET, ORKO... I DON'T LIKE THIS!

YOU MUST COME NOW!

I KEEP TELLING YOU, I'M NOT-- YAAAHH!

FWOOSH!!

THERE IS NO HOPE FIGHTING US!

DIVE FOR YOUR LIFE, CRINGER--THEY'RE FIRING DIRECTLY AT US!

WAY AHEAD OF YOU, ADAM!

THE EMBLEMS ON THEIR CHESTS... I'VE SEEN THEM BEFORE!

WOOSH

OOSH

I KNOW!!

HORDAK AND HIS EVIL HORDE WORE THAT SAME EXACT DESIGN!

ESOO

IF *HE* SENT THESE BIG UGLIES TO GET ME, I'M IN *SERIOUS TROUBLE!* UNLESS...

I WAS RIGHT! THEY'RE A LITTLE LESS EFFECTIVE THAN THEIR BOSS! AND *CLUMSIER*, TOO!

KARANG

STILL, AWKWARD AS THEY MAY BE, THEY REPRESENT HORDAK'S THREAT TO ETERNIA!

LUCKILY, THEY DON'T APPEAR TO BE SO SMART... I MIGHT BE ABLE TO PULL OFF MY CHANGE TO HE-MAN RIGHT IN FRONT OF THEM!

ADAM... USE THE SWORD FOR CRYING OUT LOUD!

EXACTLY WHAT I WAS ABOUT TO DO, ORKO!

WELL, HURRY! WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?!

BY THE POWER OF GRAY-SKULL--

FWOOSH

--I HAVE THE-- ARRG!!

HE IS DOWN.

TAKE HIM... AND HIS WEAPON.

OUR CREATOR WILL BE PLEASED!

YES, LET US RETURN TO OUR DIMENSION WITH ETERNIA'S GREAT PRIZE!

OH MY.

THEY'VE TAKEN PRINCE ADAM, AND WE WON'T DO A *THING* TO *STOP* THEM!

W-WHAT COULD WE HAVE D-DONE??

THEY'D HAVE BEATEN *US* TOO!

AT LEAST NOW WE CAN GO BACK TO ETERNIA FOR *HELP!*

HELP? WHAT FOR?? IT'S *OUR* FAULT ADAM'S MISSING! WE HAVE TO FIND HIM OURSELVES!

ALONE? B-BUT--!

BESIDES, THIS IS JUST THE THING TO PROVE TO ADAM THAT HE'S NOT THE ONLY GOOD THING IN ETERNIA!

WE'LL SAVE HIM! AND HE MIGHT NOT BE SO COCKY ABOUT THAT STUPID SWORD ANYMORE!

OH, BROTHER--!

OKAY... LET'S SEE... FIRST WE'VE GOTTA--

FIRST, THAT IS-- WE--

FIRST WE--

GEE, I DON'T KNOW *WHAT* TO DO FIRST--!

ADAM'S DOOMED!!

AND BACK IN THE FRIGHT ZONE...

MASTER, WE HAVE RETURNED WITH THE ONE YOU SEEK.

BRING HIM CLOSER, TROOPER! I CANNOT SEE HIS SHAME AT BEING CAPTURED SO SWIFTLY BY MINDLESS MINIONS SUCH AS YOURSELVES!

NO! YOU IDIOTS!!

THIS IS *NOT* THE MAN I MET ON ETERNIA! THIS IS NOT *HE-MAN!*

IT *IS* HORDAK!! AS I SUSPECTED!

AND HE REALLY DOESN'T RECOGNIZE ME IN THE FORM OF PRINCE ADAM!

HOW COULD YOU HAVE BEEN SO STUPID!? THIS FOOL LOOKS *NOTHING* LIKE *HE-MAN!!*

HE'S NOT *HALF* THE SIZE--NOR HALF AS POWERFUL AS HE--! EH. WHAT'S THAT?

THAT *SWORD!* IT'S *HIS!* THAT'S HE-MAN'S SWORD!!

OH, NO! IF I CAN'T GET TO MY SWORD, I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO ESCAPE HORDAK'S CLUTCHES!

THIS HUMAN MUST BE HE-MAN'S SLAVE!

GIVE ME THAT! IT PLEASES ME TO HAVE SUCH AN AWESOME WEAPON!

NO! YOU MUSTN'T *TOUCH* THE SWORD!

SHRAK

ARRGGHH!

HOW CAN I HARNESS SUCH GREAT POWER IF I CANNOT GO NEAR IT WITHOUT ENDANGERING MYSELF? ANY INFERIOR BEING WOULD PERISH FROM SUCH AN ASSAULT!

I TOLD YOU NOT TO TOUCH IT

YOU DARE MOCK ME

BUT HE-MAN WILL BE TOO LATE! TAKE THIS HUMAN TO THE SLIME PIT!

AND KNOWING HEROIC DOLTS LIKE HE-MAN, HE WILL BE HERE SOON TO RESCUE HIS FOOLISH SLAVE FROM HER

SLIME PIT!

!SNIFF! I REALLY THINK WE SHOULD ... AND GET ... SCENT

IT'S KINDA WEIRD. THEY DIDN'T LEAVE ... AT ALL

... THIS PLAN... SO KEEP SNIFFING!

WE'VE JUST GOT TO FIND ADAM... OR EVERYONE BACK AT THE ... HATE US FOREVER

AND THE ... BE THE ONE THAT FINDS HIM

I ONLY HOPE MY MAGIC IS STRONG ENOUGH TO SAVE HIM!

HM ... SCENT?

WHAT'S ... SMELL ...

WHAT? ...

... LOST THE SCENT

I SURE HOPE ADAM CAN HOLD OUT ... A WHILE LONGER...

WAIT! I KNOW

AND ANDAR WAS TO

GET US THERE

THAT'S

BET! THOSE

CAN WE

BABY!

HEY!

I

MAN AT ARMS

BUT I'M AFRAID OF

IT'S GETTING BRIGHTER IN HERE ALREADY! BESIDES

I'M NOT GOING TO

I'LL DO IT MYSELF!

TROOPERS!

MOVE!

AN

I HATE THIS

I SURE HOPE PRINCE ADAM IS IN THIS CAVE

MY MAGIC GOT US THIS FAR CRINGER THIS IS NEAT!

YEAH SWELL!

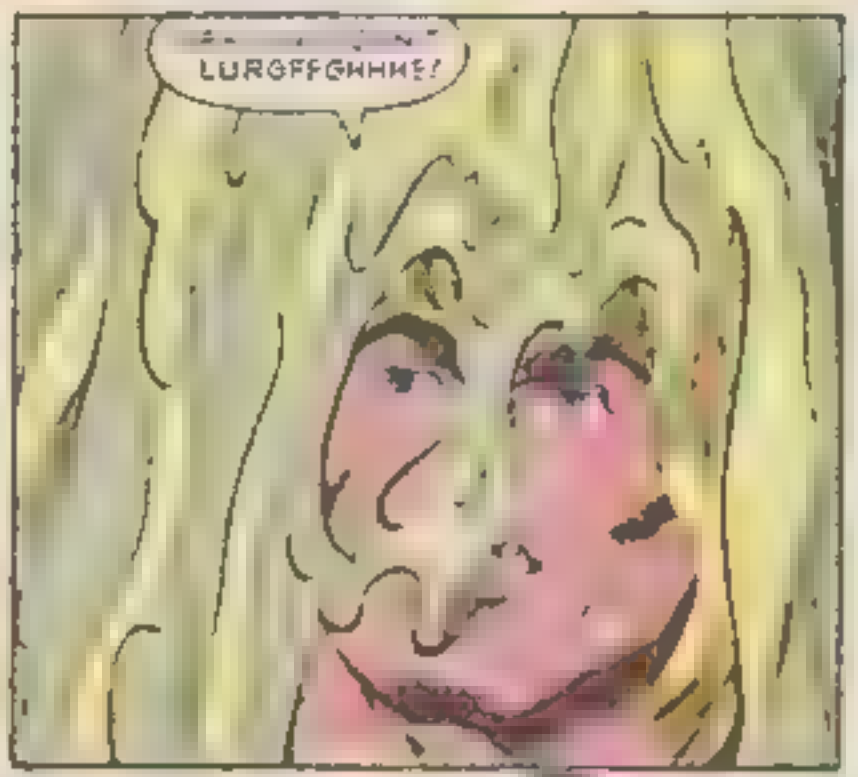
GEE GOSH LOOK UP AHEAD

"... 'TIS PRINCE ADAM! AND HE'S IN QUITE A MESS!"

ORKO!!

REMIND ME
RKO! THE SWORD! THE SWORD!

SWORD!


LURGFFGHHHE!

I AM HEADING

CAN'T FA...NOW. I'M SO CLOSE!

ONLY A FEW MORE INCHES AND I'LL HAVE THE SWORD OF POWER IN MY HANDS

IMAGINE! ME, STUPID LITTLE ORKO THE SO CALLED MAGICIAN OF ETERNIA

"...SWINGING HE MAN'S WEAPON TO VICTORY OVER THAT SNAKE, HORDAK. I AM MAGNIFICENT!"

I'D BE THE HERO FOR A CHANGE! I'D GET ALL THE CREDIT!...

EVERYONE WOULD LOOK UP TO ME!

I AM HERE INCHES AWAY FROM GLORY!

I'D NEVER NEED MY MAGICAL POWERS AGAIN!

HE'S *NOT* TRYING TO RESCUE THE HUMAN... HE'S GOING FOR THE SWORD! GOOD!

YES. THE SWORD HA! I SHALL STAND ACTIONLESS AND *LET* THIS LITTLE PUREFLESH MAN GET A TASTE OF WHAT I RECEIVED EARLIER FROM THAT VERY WEAPON

NO ORKO DON'T TOUCH THE SWORD! PLEASE

HO! I AM ORKO THE MAGICIAN! I'M THE BEST AT WHAT I DO. JUST AS HE MAN'S THE BEST AT WHAT HE DOES. MY MAGIC IS THE TRICK!

NO! YOU'RE AN HEER OR BE'NG! YOU MUST TOUCH THE SWORD!

AND GET A TASTE OF THE SHOCK I HAD WHEN I TOUCHED IT!

SURE HOPE I DO THE RIGHT THING! ET N W

F I DIDN'T WEEN N HT ER OR SL'ME! OR SOMETHING!

THEY'RE STEALING THE POWER SWORD!

HORDE TROOPERS! TO MY SIDE! EMO! STOP THEM!

BEFORE IAN 2... 5M MY PLANS ARE RUIN!

I JUST HOPE I'M NOT TOO LATE

FOR ADAM'S SAKE

FOR THE SAKE OF ADAM AND HORDINA CRUSH THEM ALL AND BRING BACK THE SWORD!

PRINCE ADAM SPEAKS THE MAGIC WORDS TO HIMSELF

BY THE POWER OF GRAYSKULL-

--I HAVE THE POWER!!

A-A-A-

OH, NO! I KNEW THIS WAS GOING TO HAPPEN!

WHOA! THIS TRANSFORMATION TO BATTLE-CAT ALWAYS FEELS SO FUNNY!

ROARR

GOOD FELLA BATTLECAT! IT'S TIME FOR US TO DO A NUMBER ON HORDAK!

RRROAARRR

WHAT?! THE SLIME PIT HAS EXPLODED! AND THERE, COMING THROUGH THE DEBRIS, IS HE-MAN!

I KNEW WITH THAT LITTLE PURPLE MAGICIAN AROUND, HE-MAN COULD NOT BE FAR BEHIND!

THIS IS NOT UNFOLDING AS I HAD ORIGINALLY PLANNED.. YET I *DID* WANT HE-MAN... AND NOW HE'S *MINE!*

HORDE TROOPERS TO BATTLE! RENDER HE-MAN HELPLESS FOR ME!

FIGHT THEM AND ***DESTROY THEM!***

YOU GUYS NEVER GIVE UP, DO YOU??

WELL, YOU WILL NOW!

KA-RAASHH!

WELL, WELL, WELL, BATTLECAT, WILL YOU LOOK AT THAT!

I GUESS THIS EXPLAINS HOW COME THE HORDE TROOPERS WERE ABLE TO CARRY THE SWORD--

--THEY WERE JUST MINDLESS, LIFELESS SUITS OF ARMOR ANIMATED BY HORDAK'S MAGIC!

NO, WHAT WILL THEY THINK OF NEXT?!

THAT ALSO EXPLAINS WHY I SENSED IT WOULD HAVE BEEN ALL RIGHT TO CHANGE INTO HE-MAN EARLIER... THEY WOULDN'T HAVE UNDERSTOOD WHO I *REALLY* WAS!

YOU'VE *DESTROYED* THEM! MY HORDE TROOPERS! YOU'LL *PAY* FOR THIS OUTRAGE!

YOU SHALL PAY BY FACING THE PERIL OF MY *HURRICANE OF HATE!!*

VOOOSH

HURRICANE? HORDAK DOES HURRICANES, TOO!? I WONDER IF HE DOES IMPRESSIONS AS WELL?

THIS IS HARDLY THE TIME FOR JOKES, ORKO!

SORRY, HE-MAN

VOOOOSH

SO YOU STILL ADVANCE UPON ME, HE-MAN. YOU DO NOT KNOW WHEN YOU ARE BEATEN, DO YOU?

VOOSH!

CAN'T SAY THAT I DO, HORDAK!

S-BUT, HE-MAN--!

GET YOURSELF TO SAFETY, ORKO! I'M GOING TO CAPTURE HORDAK!

STILL COMING, EH? WELL, I HAVE MORE WEAPONS AT MY DISPOSAL! AND LIKE YOURSELF, I HAVE ALLIES WHO WILL RIDE INTO BATTLE WITH ME!

BY THE POWER WITHIN ME, I CONJURE YOU FORTH--

-- COME FORTH MY TRUSTY MANTISAUR!

YEEAH!! HE-MAN! LOOK!

I SEE IT, ORKO! I ALSO SEE HURRICANE HORDAK HAS RETURNED!

VOOSH!

GO, ORKO! I MUST FIGHT FOR OUR HOMEWORLD, ETERNIA! AND THE SITUATION LOOKS GRAVE INDEED!

WAIT, HE-MAN, DON'T GO! HORDAK'S TOO POWERFUL! YOU'LL GET HURT!

COME TO ME, HE-MAN! COME TO MEET YOUR FATE!

YOU SHALL NO LONGER THREATEN INNOCENT WORLDS, HORDAK! NOT WHILE I'M IN EXISTENCE!

VOOOOOSH

OWGOSH! I CAN'T LET ANYTHING HAPPEN TO HE-MAN!

I'M ONLY A GUY IN A LONG RED SHIRT, BUT I ASK FOR PASSAGE BEFORE MY FRIEND GETS HURT!

ORKO! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?!

A MAN'S GOTTA DO WHAT A MAN'S GOTTA DO, HE-MAN!

EVEN IF HE IS A LITTLE PURPLE MAN!

NO! YOU CANNOT ESCAPE ME NOW! I DID NOT EXPECT THIS TURN OF EVENTS! COME BACK!

CLOSE UP NOW, HOLE. DO NOT FAIL US. CAUSE IF YOU DON'T HORDAK'LL TAIL US!

CURSE YOU, HE-MAN! I SHALL HAUNT YOU FOREVER... UNTIL ONE OF US IS NO MORE...

NICE WORK, ORKO!

YOU MEAN YOU'RE NOT MAD THAT I YANKED US OUTTA THERE WHEN YOU WANTED TO STAY AND FIGHT?

NO WAY! YOU DID GOOD, LITTLE BUDDY!

I WAS IMPRESSED WITH YOUR DECISION EARLIER ABOUT THE SWORD. I KNOW WHAT USING IT WOULD'VE MEANT TO YOU.

SO HOW CAN I QUESTION SUCH A MATURE DECISION-MAKER'S DECISION TO GET US OUT OF ETHERIA WHEN THE GETTIN' WAS GOOD?

WELL, YOU KNOW. IT WAS NOTHING REALLY.

CAN WE GO HOME, NOW?

HANANANA HANANANA!!

THE END